



# TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Aadi 24, Vilambi, Thiruvalluvar Aandu-2049

## Part II—Section 1

**Notifications or Orders of specific character or of particular interest to the public  
issued by Secretariat Departments.**

### NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

#### PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

(Law and Order.B)

GUIDELINES REGARDING INSTALLATION AND WORSHIP OF VINAYAKAR IDOLS AND ALSO  
IMMERSION THEREOF

[G.O.Ms.No. 598, Public (Law & Order.B), 9th August 2018, Aadi 24, Vilambi, Thiruvalluvar Aandu-2049.]

**No. II(1)/PULO/15(k)/2018.**

With a view to maintain public peace, tranquility, public safety, regulation of traffic and control of pollution, the following guidelines are issued for the State of Tamil Nadu :-

(1) Any organiser intending to install Vinayakar Idol should apply in a prescribed format (as in Form-I) to the Assistant Commissioners of Police concerned, where there are Police Commissionerates, and RDO / Sub-Collector in all other cases, at least a month in advance along with No Objection Certificates (NOCs) obtained from

(i) Land owner concerned. If the proposed land is a public land, NOC from the Local Bodies concerned/ Highways or the Department concerned should be obtained;

(ii) The Station House Officer concerned (including Sound Amplifier License / Permit);

(iii) Fire and Rescue Services to the effect that temporary structures erected adhere to the fire safety standards;

and

(i) A letter indicating source of power supply and proof of temporary supply of electricity from TANGEDCO.

Necessary permission will be issued by the Assistant Commissioner of Police in Police Commissionerates, and RDO / Sub-Collector in other cases in Form-II annexed to the guidelines.

(2) The Idols proposed to be installed should be made of pure clay and should not be made of any polluting materials such as Plaster of Paris or painted with prohibited polluting chemicals and as stipulated by Tamil Nadu Pollution

Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board from time to time. In case Idols are to be painted, water soluble and non-toxic natural dyes alone should be used. Use of toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes for painting Idols is strictly prohibited.

(3) The organisers should avoid using inflammable materials for construction of temporary structures and should provide entry and exit, which are wide enough for smooth and easy ingress into and exit out of 'Pandhals' and / or structures in a regulated manner.

(4) The organisers should ensure that adequate first aid and emergency medical facilities are made available and no inflammable materials are stored in and around the worship areas.

(5) The height of the Idol proposed to be installed should not exceed 10 feet including the base and the dais.

(6) Installation of Idols near other religious places / hospitals / educational institutions should be avoided.

(7) Sound Amplifier (Mike) License would be granted only for two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening, during Pooja. Cone type speakers are prohibited and only box type speakers should be used. Public Address System should not exceed the prescribed noise decibel limit and in the event any music is played, the music should not exceed the prescribed noise decibel limit.

(8) The organisers should ensure that no illegal activities take place under the garb of Vinayakar worship including unauthorized tapping and / or pilferage of electricity.

(9) No flex boards in support of any political party or communal leader shall be erected at the premises of the programme.

(10) Organisers should depute two volunteers round the clock for safety of the Idol. The installation places of Idol should be properly illuminated. Generator set may be provided in case of power failure.

(11) Shouting of slogans inciting communal hatred and affecting the sentiments of other religions shall not be permitted at any cost.

(12) The organisers should strictly follow any other conditions laid down by the Revenue / Police / Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board authorities in the interest of maintaining public peace, public safety and communal harmony.

(13) The Fire and Rescue Services should ensure that fire safety norms and rules are strictly complied with and the 'Pandhals' including the electrical installations thereof are inspected and approved by the fire authorities concerned.

(14) The District Collectors concerned shall annually finalise the list of Idol immersion points in their districts in consultation with the Police Department, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Local Bodies and related Departments. Idols should be immersed only in the designated "Idol Immersion Points" identified by the authorities concerned.

(15) Vinayakar Idols installed in the public places for worship should be taken out for immersion within five days from the date of installation.

(16) Vinayakar Idol immersion procession should be taken out before 1200 hours on the specified day in the approved routes prescribed by the Police through vehicles and immersed in the designated places in an orderly manner. Wherever possible, the procession should be taken out through the routes by-passing the mosques / churches, as stipulated by the Police authorities.

(17) Four wheelers, (i.e.), mini lorry / tractor should only be used for carrying the Idols. Bullock cart/fish cart/ three wheelers would not be permitted.

(18) Capacity of participants travelling in the vehicle carrying Vinayakar Idol should be in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.

(19) Bursting of crackers at the Vinayakar Idol installation places / immersion points / procession routes should not be allowed.

(20) Worship materials like flowers, clothes, decorating material (made of paper and plastic), etc., should be removed before immersion of Idols. Bio-degradable materials should be collected separately for recycling or composting. Non-biodegradable materials should be collected separately for disposal in sanitary landfills.

(21) The 'Idol Immersion Points' shall be cordoned off and barricaded. Synthetic liner may be placed in the bottom, well in advance. The said liner shall be removed on completion of immersion ceremony so that the remains of Idols would be brought to the bank. Bamboo and wooden logs, if any, would be reused. Clay, etc., may be taken to sanitary landfill for disposal.

(22) Within 48 hours of the immersion of Idols, the left over material at the Idol immersion points on the banks of rivers, lakes, beaches, etc., should be collected by the local bodies for disposal.

(23) Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board should conduct water quality assessment of the water body, preferably in Municipal Corporations at three stages, (i.e.), pre-immersion, during immersion and post immersion. Considering the size of water body, appropriate number of sampling locations may be determined in order to get a fairly representative assessment of water quality. For ascertaining water quality, physico-chemical parameters such as pH, DO, BOD, COD, Conductivity, Turbidity, TDS, Total Solids and Metals (Chromium, Lead, Zinc and Copper) may be analysed.

(24) The appeal against the order of permission issuing authority lies with the Commissioner of Police in Police Commissionerates and District Collector in other cases.

FORM – I

**Application for permission to install Idol and to take out processions**

From

(Name and address with contact details of the convenor who intends to install Idols and to take out procession).

To

The Sub-Collector (or) The Revenue Divisional Officer (or) The Assistant Commissioner of Police (as the case may be)

Sir,

I hereby apply for permission to install Idol (not exceeding .....feet) at ..... situated within ..... Police limits in .....Taluk of ..... District.

I forward herewith the following particulars in duplicate, duly signed by me:-

- (a) NOC from the Land owner concerned. If the proposed land is a public land, NOC from the Local Bodies/ Highways or the Department concerned;
  - (b) NOC from the Station House Officer concerned (including Sound Amplifier License / Permit);
  - (c) NOC from Fire and Rescue Services to the effect that temporary structures erected adhere to the fire safety standards;
- and
- (i) A letter indicating source of power supply and proof of temporary supply of electricity from TANGEDCO.

UNDERTAKING

- (1) I agree to install Idol made of bio-degradable material such as clay and use only natural dyes and will not use chemical colours.
- (2) I agree to proceed with installation of the Idol only with prior permission.
- (3) I agree to use the amplifiers and loudspeakers within the permissible limits in the specified timing.
- (4) I agree to refrain from bursting of crackers.
- (5) I agree that I will not tap electricity illegally.
- (6) I agree that no flex boards in support of any political party or communal leader will be erected.
- (7) I agree that the Idol immersion procession will be taken out with Police permission at the route and time specified by the Police and the Idols will be immersed at the notified immersion points as per the conditions laid down.
- (8) I agree that I will abide by any other conditions put forth for permission.

Signature of the Convenor  
who intends to install  
Idols and take out procession

## FORM – II

**Permission to install the Idols and permission for procession**

From

The Sub-Collector (or) The Revenue Divisional  
Officer (or) The Assistant Commissioner of  
Police (as the case may be)

To

(Name and address of the convenor who intends  
to install Idols and to take out procession).

Sir / Madam,

Permission is hereby accorded for installation of Idol (not exceeding 10 feet) from ..... to .....  
at ..... within ..... Police limits in .....  
Taluk of ..... District, subject to the conditions attached herewith.

Sub-Collector (or) Revenue Divisional Officer (or)  
Assistant Commissioner of Police

Date :

Place :

Copy to :

1. The

**PERMISSION IS ISSUED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS :-**

(a) The Idols proposed to be installed should be made of pure clay and should not be made of any polluting materials such as Plaster of Paris or painted with prohibited polluting chemicals and as stipulated by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board from time to time. In case Idols are to be painted, water soluble and non-toxic natural dyes alone should be used. Use of toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes for painting Idols is strictly prohibited.

(b) The organisers should avoid using inflammable materials for construction of temporary structures and should provide entry and exit, which are wide enough for smooth and easy ingress into and exit out of 'Pandhals' and / or structures in a regulated manner.

(c) The organisers should ensure that adequate first aid and emergency medical facilities are made available and no inflammable materials are stored in and around the worship areas.

(d) The height of the Idol proposed to be installed should not exceed 10 feet including the base and the dais.

(e) Installation of Idols near other religious places / hospitals / educational institutions should be avoided.

(f) Sound Amplifier (Mike) License would be granted only for two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening, during Pooja. Cone type speakers are prohibited and only box type speakers should be used. Public Address System should not exceed the prescribed noise decibel limit and in the event any music is played, the music should not exceed the prescribed noise decibel limit.

(g) The organisers should ensure that no illegal activities take place under the garb of Vinayakar worship including unauthorized tapping and / or pilferage of electricity.

(h) No flex boards in support of any political party or communal leader shall be erected at the premises of the programme.

(i) Organisers should depute two volunteers round the clock for safety of the Idol. The installation places of Idol should be properly illuminated. Generator set may be provided in case of power failure.

(j) Shouting of slogans inciting communal hatred and affecting the sentiments of other religions shall not be permitted at any cost.

(k) The organisers should strictly follow any other conditions laid down by the Revenue / Police Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board authorities in the interest of maintaining public peace, public safety and communal harmony.

(l) Vinayakar Idols installed in the public places for worship should be taken out for immersion within five days from the date of installation.

(m) Vinayakar Idol immersion procession should be taken out before 1200 hours on the specified day in the approved routes prescribed by the Police through vehicles and immersed in the designated places in an orderly manner. Wherever possible, the procession should be taken out through the routes by-passing the mosques / churches, as stipulated by the Police authorities.

(n) Four wheelers, (i.e.), mini lorry / tractor should only be used for carrying the Idols. Bullock cart / fish cart/ three wheelers would not be permitted.

(o) Capacity of participants travelling in the vehicle carrying Vinayakar Idol should be in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.

(p) Bursting of crackers at the Vinayakar Idol installation places / immersion points / procession routes should not be allowed.

(q) Worship materials like flowers, clothes, decorating material (made of paper and plastic), etc., should be removed before immersion of Idols.

(r) In case of appeal against the order of permission issuing authority, it lies with the Commissioner of Police in Police Commissionerates and District Collector in other cases.

P. SENTHILKUMAR,  
*Principal Secretary to Government (FAC).*